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JUNE 5, 1959

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FROM: GENEVA

TO: Secretary of State

NO: CAHTO 70, JUNE 5, N ON

PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT CAHTO 70, REPEATED INFORMATION BONN 170,  
LONDON 529, MOSCOW 306, PARIS 296, BERLIN 51EYES ONLY FOR AMBASSADORS MOSCOW FOR CHARGE GUFLER AND  
BURGESS

PARIS PASS USRO.

FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF UNCLEARED MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION  
BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTERS EVENING JUNE 4.

AFTER GROMYKO'S STATEMENT SOVIETS CONTEMPLATED TURNING OVER  
FUNCTIONS TO GDR, SECRETARY'S AND COUVE'S AFFIRMATION OF OUR  
INTENTION TO MAINTAIN RIGHTS AND TROOPS IN BERLIN, ARGUMENTATION  
OVER POTSDAM AGREEMENT, GROMYKO'S ADMISSION THAT WEST HAS RIGHTS  
BUT INSISTENCE ON UNACCEPTABILITY OF WESTERN PROPOSALS LLOYD  
SUMMED UP WESTERN CONCESSIONS AS WILLINGNESS TO (1) CONSIDER  
IMPROVEMENTS IN PROPAGANDA SITUATION (2) PLACE A CEILING ON  
TROOPS AND (3) CONSIDER SOVIET PROPOSALS ON ACCESS. COUVE ADDED  
WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER INTERIM ARRANGEMENT FOR WEST BERLIN  
OUTSIDE OF WESTERN PEACE PLAN.

GROMYKO ASKED WHAT WEST WOULD SAY TO AN AGREEMENT WHICH SAID  
ON OUR RIGHTS.

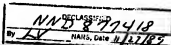
SECRETARY NOTED THAT IF WE SAY NOTHING OF OUR RIGHTS SOVIETS  
MIGHT ASSUME WE HAD GIVEN THEM UP. GROMYKO SUGGESTED QUESTION  
OF RIGHTS BE PUT TO ONE SIDE AND AGREEMENT REACHED ON ARRANGE-  
MENTS. SECRETARY REFERRED TO GROMYKO'S STATEMENT THAT

PERMANENT

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-2- CAHTO 70, JUNE 5, NOON FROM GENEVA

NO ARRANGEMENTS WERE POSSIBLE UNTIL THE OCCUPATION STATUS OF WEST BERLIN HAD BEEN GIVEN UP.

GROMYKO AGAIN ASKED ABOUT WESTERN PROPOSALS ON BERLIN. SUMMARIZED AGAIN BY LLOYD WHO THEN INDICATED POSSIBILITY OF SOVIETS USING GERMANS. GROMYKO RIDICULED TROOP CEILINGS BUT SAW IN POINT RE ILLEGAL AND CLANDESTINE OPERATIONS A CERTAIN FORWARD STEP. SAID HE THOUGHT A SATISFACTORY UNDERSTANDING ON ACCESS COULD BE AGREED ON BUT NOT APART FROM OTHER RELATED POINTS.

AFTER ARGUMENT ABOUT IMPORTANCE OF TROOP CEILINGS SECRETARY ASKED WHETHER IF WEST WERE TO SIGN SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT WITH NO MENTION OUR RIGHTS SOVIETS WOULD CONSIDER WE HAD GIVEN UP ALL OUR RIGHTS. GROMYKO AVOIDED QUESTION SUGGESTING THERE SHOULD BE NEITHER POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE INDICATION WITH RESPECT TO RIGHTS.

DESPITE CONTINUED WESTERN EMPHASIS OF POINT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE NOT RPT NOT TO ANSWER PUBLICLY QUESTIONS ABOUT STATUS OUR RIGHTS GROMYKO KEPT INSISTING AGREEMENT WOULD REQUIRE NO MENTION OF RIGHTS.

SECRETARY REPLIED IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO GO HOME AND FACE CONGRESS WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO SAY EXACTLY WHERE RIGHTS WERE.

MEETING CLOSED WITH SECRETARY STATING MAIN QUESTION WAS QUESTION OF OUR RIGHTS AND THEIR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND GROMYKO COUNTERING BY SAYING MAIN QUESTION PRESENCE WESTERN TROOPS IN WEST BERLIN AND ASKING WHAT CONSTRUCTIVE PROPOSALS WE HAD TO OFFER.

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